Center for Modern Greek Studies
Greek American Oral History Project
Transcription

Tape:

Subject: Stamatina Chlentzos
Interviewer: Anastasia Condas
Date of Interview: 8/1/2001

Transcriber: Amanda Cookson
Date of Transcription: 6/16/2010

I: Interviewer
S: Stamatina

Counter: 000

<speaking in Greek> {000-009}

I: This is August 1, 2001. Mrs. Stamatina Chlentzos is being interviewed by Anastasia Condas at Mrs. Chlentzos' home in Hayward, California for the Greek American Archive Project for Modern Greek Studies at San Francisco State University. And we would like to know today about where and when you were born.

S: I born, in, in, in Greece in Nisos Kythera, I born 1906 <laughing> on November 4th, 1906.

I: And that makes you how old then?

S: 95.

I: And how about your, can you tell me about your family?

S: Uhh my family was in Greece, my father was a shoemaker and my mother is, worked in the fields. We have a three sisters and nine brothers {021} myself and my sister in Australia <speaking Greek> {021} with family. {021}

I: Who else lived in your house?

S: Umm nobody.

I: You just lived in your house with your mother and father//

S: //I was in with nobody, I know, and that's all.

I: Well when you were a little girl who lived with you in your house?

S: My mother, my father, my sisters and after uhh I was married to Angelo Chlento ehh and then I have engagement October 26, 19-, 1906, no 1929, I think. I forgot.

I: Were you engaged there or here?

S: Eh yes {030} Οκτώβρε, Οκτώβρε 26, Οκτώβρε 26, -5, I think.

I: How did you meet your husband?

S: My husband came from America and they get to, they get to our village <mumbling> which was the same village and they saw me and asked my moth-, my mother and my father, father to give, get married with me. And that's where I was start to engagement October and I, we marry ehh, ehh, December 26, 28 and it was uhh 1930, no '31.

I: Did your, did you have anything to do with the decision, who made the decision about that, your husband?

S: I think it, you <speaking in Greek> {043} but they saw me if you don't like me don't get, you know. And, as soon as they get they ask for to get married.

I: Well how about you? What did you have to say about it?

S: Well I didn't, I say "yes" because we have lotta, lotta good things here for him because it was very good for his family, they get the sister to bring me America to get married here and stay to for sister's to get all things in and then what to get married to accepts but after he <speaking in Greek> {050}.

I: Ohh he, he helped his sisters get married, he married off his sisters and then he came to the United States.

S: Yeah.

I: To get married himself. Well how did he help his sisters? <speaking in Greek>

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh he brought them to the United States! Oh he sent the tickets, took them to the United States and had them get married here?

S: Yeah.

I: Help them get married here//

S: Yeah.

I: //in the United States.

S: Yeah, yeah.

I: Oh I see and then he came back//

S: And then, and {056} he was, his sister is married and they get to our country and get married he sends.

I: Then he got married. <speaking in Greek> {058}

S: <speaking in Greek> {058}

I: Oh so you saw that he, he//

S: //yeah//

I: //well in marrying and//

S: //and my mother and my father {064} <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh so you, you trust him because you heard that uhh//

S: //yeah//

I: //his, your parents trusted//

S: //yeah//

I: //that he was a good person.

S: Yeah, yeah.

I: And you saw that he was a//

S: //yeah//

I: //head of the family because he did so much for his sisters.

S: Yeah.

I: And how long were you in Greece after you got married?

S: Ohh we don't stay very long, uhh, only get married February 28 and we got to the Athens for papers for citizen for <speaking in Greek> {071}.

I: So you came into the United States//

S: // <speaking in Greek> {074}

I: Oh you uhh took the ship from Athens//

S: //Mmhmm//

I: //and from Pirea//

S: //Mmhmm//

I: //and uhh got off in Italy.

S: Yeah//

I: //how long did you stay there?

S: We don't stay very long because I don't remember because we, we try to get to Milano and stay in Milano and then catch the train and went to the {079} <speaking in Greek>

I: So how long did the trip take, do you remember how long the trip took altogether, from the time you left Athens?

S: Ohh. It took umm, I 'member fourteen days it was sailing in {083}.

I: Ohh thirteen days on the ship.

S: Mmhmm.

I: And how was that ship?

S: Oh that ship is <speaking in Greek> {084}

I: Oh you have a, a, you have a picture of the ship?

S. Ναι.

I: Uh huh.

S: <speaking in Greek> {085}

I: The {086}.

S: <speaking in Greek> {087}

I: Oh it was it's last//

S: //last//

I: //last voyage.

S: <speaking in Greek> {088}

I: They called it the "Liviadi."

S: Mmhmm.

I: And, uhh, what did you do aboard the ship, to pass the time?

S: Ohh we have a lot of time, we have uhh different, a different, uhh, <speaking in Greek> {091}

I: <speaking in Greek>

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: So you had a good time on the ship.

S: Yeah, yeah.

I: And were there mostly Greeks on the ship or?

S: No <speaking in Greek> {100}

I: A lot of Italians.

S: Italian people <speaking in Greek>

I: There was a large ship.

S: Yeah and then <speaking in Greek> {107}

I: Oh they had an orchestra on board the ship!

S: Very, very, very, I never forget that ship, yeah, yeah <speaking in Greek>

I: Did the same orchestra//

S: // <speaking in Greek. {110}

I: You stayed one week in New York//

S: //Mmhmm//

I: //and then took the train//

S: //train//

I: //to.

S: to California.

I: to California. What was your first impression?

S: {112} New York//

I: //Oh!

S: //<speaking in Greek> {114}

I: You had a lot of friends in New York and you got your {114} and what, what did you see?

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Ok you went to the theatre//

S: // <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh <speaking in Greek> {118} did you meet them in New York?

S: No, no.

I: Or did you, were they on the ship with you?

S: <speaking in Greek > {119}

I: Oh so Zacharias and Helen Comines were your {120}, they're the ones.

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: And they, oh, so you all came to the United States together with//

S: //together//

I: //with Helen and Zacharia and Nick Comines who was eleven at the time.

S: Yeah.

I: So he was born and then//

S: <speaking in Greek> {123}

I: //and so he//

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: So {124}

S: <speaking in Greek> {124}

I: And you have a picture, that's ok you can show me the picture later.

S: Oh ok.

I: You can show me, I'd love to see this picture.

S: Yeah! <laughing>

I: Yes.

S: Yeah.

I: So all did you travel around New York together?

S: Yes. Yeah <speaking in Greek> {127}

I: You separated in Chicago.

S: Yes. <speaking in Greek> Bay Area

I: Oh they took another train to come to Salinas and then had to come to the Bay Area, why did you come to the Bay Area?

S: Because my husband, he was, he was, was here before and was, was to stay to <speaking in Greek> {131}

I: Oh so he already had been here//

S: //Ναι

I: //then this. And what did he do here, how did he make a living?

S: <speaking in Greece> {132}

I: He was a waiter and then you opened a restaurant.

S: Ναι.

I: Where, where was the restaurant?

S: <speaking in Greek> {134}

I: Where in San Francisco?

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh. Was it, it wasn't downtown then?

S: No, no.

I: It was outside.

S: Outside, outside of San Francisco. No South San Francisco <speaking in Greek> {138}

I: You can't remember the name of it but it's the name of the place. Do you remember the name of the restaurant.

S: <speaking in Greek> {140}

I: You don't remember? You'll, you'll think of it. And what, what kind of restaurant was it, umm?

S: Coffee shop.

I: It was a coffee shop?

S: Coffee shop, yeah, a restaurant and dinner and lunch and the breakfast.

I: How did he get to work? That was far away or did you live in San Francisco?

S: Live in San Francisco, over there.

I: How long did you live in San Francisco?

S: Ohh we didn't stay because umm, umm, uhh, that family's really depressive yeah and the living is not good, very good, that father the most <speaking in Greek> {147}

I: Oh so, what did the partner, did he have a partner or uhh but you said you uhh lost the restaurant because it was//

S: //yeah, my husband, that's what my husband, they leave him but, is not uhh, is not uhh honest.

I: Oh he wasn't honest.

S: Not honest because they need to <speaking in Greek> {152}

I: Right.

S: <speaking in Greek> {153}

I: You came to Oakland.

S: <speaking in Greek> {154}

I: After, after you lost the restaurant.

S: Yeah and uhh we opened the restaurant but still he don't a success and my husband decide to not go anymore in the restaurant business and started to work in a shipyard.

I: Where was the shipyard?

S: Uhh in Richmond.

I: In Richmond, what did he do there?

S: <speaking in Greek> {159}

I: You don't recall the work exactly.

S: Yeah.

I: And what did you do at home?

S: Oh <laughing> I mean, I'm cooking, I clean the house, that's all. <speaking in Greek> {162} They grow on, they go to school, so I was here soon as 1948.

I: Now were you here in Hayward or were you in//

S: //Hayward.

I: Hayward.

S: Or we were first in San Leandro but uhh start working, like I said my husband find business in Hayward but business, like I say, after the, the {168} ee, work stop. <speaking in Greek> {171}

I: Oh no more soldiers and sailors were here and umm business dropped.

S: <speaking in Greek> {172}

I: You bought the house.

S: Ναι.

I: And were here//

S: Ναι.

I: Why did you buy the house in Hayward?

S: Because uhh at that time <speaking in Greek> {176}

I: Oh you had, you had to buy it or you wouldn't have any place to stay//

S: <speaking in Greek> {178}

I: Oh, there were a lot of people coming, why were they coming?

S: <speaking in Greek> {181}

I: They came from the south?

S: Yeah a lot of people want to work in the shipyards.

I: And they're, they're//

S: // <speaking in Greek> {184}

I: Oh they had a, they had a special name for these people//

S: //Yeah//

I: //who came there.

S: Yeah, yeah. <speaking in Greek> {186}

I: Oh they wouldn't rent you a house if you had children.

S: Yeah <speaking in Greek> {188}

I: Yes, you needed//

S: <speaking in Greek> {194}

I: Oh you saw, you saw it, you saw the sign.

S: <speaking in Greek> {196}

I: And it was close to school and it was close to everything.

S: Yeah, yeah, yeah. <speaking in Greek> {198}

I: You were here in Hayward since 1948.

S: Ναι. <speaking in Greek> {201}

I: Over 50 years.

S: Ναι.

I: How did you uhh get your citizenship papers?

S: Oh I got the citizenship papers San Leandro. I was in San Leandro and go to school at nighttime. <interruption> With the high school San Leandro, San Leandro.

I: Was, was it difficult, what did you have to do to get the papers?

S: Pardon me?

I: What did you have to do to get the papers?

S: What? We have to, to back to school to learn about the United State and many things and then we go to the umm <speaking in Greek> {212}

I: Ohh so if you couldn't answer all those questions you had to go back to school?

S: Yeah.

I: What was it like raising children uhh here in the United States?

S: I do, I, <mumbling> the Greek culture, you know, and uhh I decide that <speaking in Greek> {222}

I: Well now what troubles did they have in school//

S: <speaking in Greek> {224}

I: Yeah they Hayward High School, the old Hayward High School at Centennial Hall.

S: Yeah, yeah.

I: And what problems were there?

S: Uhh, well, before <speaking in Greek> {228}

I: Ohh, the girls <interrupting> it was quite at first but then girls started getting pregnant//

S: //and then my husband decide to//

I: //it wasn't a good environment//

S: Ναι. <speaking in Greek> {231}

I: So you sent them to Holy Names High School//

S: In Berkeley.

I: In Berkeley.

S: <speaking in Greek> {232}

I: Ohh they had to take 3 buses to get there.

S: <speaking in Greek> {234}

I: You had to pay because you were {234}

S: <speaking in Greek> {236}

I: Ohh the girls took music so went the extra.

S: <speaking in Greek> {238}

I: Oh she had the first chair, Judy had the first chair, violin//

S: <speaking in Greek> {240}

I: Oh when she got married she stopped.

S: <speaking in Greek> {240}

I: She oh she got a scholarship and went to Holy Names College//

S: <speaking in Greek> {243}

I: //for music. And then how about Teddy?

S: <speaking in Greek> {245}

I: Oh Father George saw Teddy and asked her to be secretary at the church//

S: <speaking in Greek> {249}

I: //in Oakland.

S: Yeah.

I: So she didn't finish college.

S: No, no//

I: //she didn't finish cuz she went to the church. <speaking in Greek> {252} How did you keep the Greek culture?

S: <speaking in Greek> {253}

I: Oh.

S: <speaking in Greek> {254}

I: Their father Evangelos had, gave them lessons <interruption> Greek lessons and, and he had a πίνακα, he had a black board!

S: <laughing> <speaking in Greek> {257}

I: Teddy learned how to write Greek and she//

S: // <speaking in Greek> {260}

I: Judy just speaks//

S: <speaking in Greek> {261}

I: She, she played the violin too, she had too many lessons.

S: Yeah, yeah.

I: So she just learned how to speak Greek.

S: Yeah.

I: What other things did you do to keep the Greek culture. <speaking in Greek>//

S: <speaking in Greek> {265}

I: You told them//

S: <speaking in Greek> {265}

I: You told them how you grew up//

S: //Yeah//

I: //in Greece.

S: <speaking in Greek> {268}

I: We, we told them how in Greece it was more difficult to get an education because you had to pay. Well when you were a, a girl, did you have, did you go to school?

S: Yeah we go to school but I don't go very far. I go to <speaking in Greek> fourth grade. {275}

I: You//

S: // <speaking in Greek> {278}

I: The, the teacher told your father that she wanted you to go to another school//

S: //Ναι//

I: //to uhh to progress but your parents didn't want you to go live somewhere else because you had to go, where did you have to go?

S: Yeah, yeah, we stay home//

I: //where, where did you have to go to school with a, he didn't want you to live somewhere else//

S: //yeah//

I: //I think they were very strict with you//

S: //yeah.

I: Where would you have had to go?

S: First time we go to {284}//

I: //to the capital.

S: yeah and then we have to go to Athens.

I: Oh and then go to Athens//

S: //to finish the//

I: //where, when did you have to go to Athens to finish?

S: To finish, to finish, I want to go for teaching or for different things you have done <speaking in Greek> {287}

I: Then you'd have to go to Athens.

S: Yeah, yeah.

I: And when you went to school in Kythera up to the 4th grade what was the school like, was it both boys and girls or?

S: Yeah. Both boys and girls. Before it was {290} they have a <speaking in Greek> {291}.

I: Ok they had a, just a girl's school and a boy's school.

S: Mmhmm.

I: But did you go to the girl's school?

S: Ya. But soon as <speaking in Greek> {292}

I: Where was it?

S: Soon as you finish the 4th grade you have to go to umm <speaking in Greek> {295} they go to <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh he went to //

S: <speaking in Greek> {297}

I: Oh to boys and girls school after the 4th grade.

S: Yeah.

I: Well when you went to, you//

S: <speaking in Greek> {299}

I: //to the junior high, it was both boys and girls//

S: //yeah, yeah.

I: In the first four grades when you went to school, the girls school, what did you learn?

S: Well uhh {302} they teachin' different ehh, different things, you know. Or teaching or umm different, γιατρός, δάσκαλος, or, or {306} or priest.

I: Oh when you go to//

S: //yeah//

I: //when you go to Athens//

S: //yeah, yeah//

I: //you can learn all those things. But when you were a little girl <speaking in Greek> {309} what did you learn in//

S: // <speaking in Greek> {309} ιστόρια

I: History.

S: Γεογραφία.

I: Geography.

S: Uhh, <speaking in Greek> {311}

I: Grammar.

S: <speaking in Greek> Γραμματική. Τί άλλο?

I: Uhh <speaking in Greek> {313}

S: No.

I: You didn't learn any//

S: //this is up to 4th grade <speaking in Greek> {315}

I: Ohh after 4th grade you learn that.

S: <speaking in Greek> {316}

I: Oh they had a school for cooking.

S: Yeah, yeah, <mumbling> or crocheting or different things.

I: Or crocheting. Uhh did you learn any of those things?

S: No, I, I <speaking in Greek> {319}

I: You learned it from your mother.

S: Yeah, yeah. <speaking in Greek> {322}

I: With a little, little oil lamp we learned how to crochet.

S: Yeah, yeah. <speaking in Greek> {324}

I: We had to walk 2 hours//

S: //yeah//

I: //in the dark//

S: //<interrupting>//

I: //to get, to get to school.

S: To go to school no because it was around, my house is number//

I: <speaking in Greek> {328}

S: <speaking in Greek> {328}

I: Ohh to get up to do your work. <speaking in Greek> What kind of work did you do?

S: <speaking in Greek> {330}

I: You had to pick the olives//

S: // <speaking in Greek> {332}

I: Ohh you, you had to//

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: //in the flower fields. And you had to the orchards, take care of the orchards.

S: Yeah, yeah.

I: <speaking in Greek> {333} Did you {334} animals

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh you had//

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh your father had a <laughing>

S: <laughing> <speaking in Greek>

I: It was a little pony?

S: <speaking in Greek> {338}

I: Oh <speaking in Greek>

S: <laughing>

I: A donkey or a horse?

S: No, no, horse.

I: A horse!

S: Horse.

I: {340}

S: <speaking in Greek> {341}

I: Ohh he responded right away.

S: Yeah.

I: Well what did your grandfather do? <speaking in Greek> {343}

S: <speaking in Greek> {343}

I: Oh παππούς.

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh he was, oh your παπού was a priest.

S: Yeah <speaking in Greek> {344}

I: He had children.

S: Seven children.

I: Was this your//

S: Οχτώ!

I: Oh eight kids!

S: No, no, sorry, sorry.

I: Ok, seven, ok, well, where, where was he a priest.

S: He was priest because he liked to be priest.

I: Yeah, but πού, πού?

S: Oh <speaking in Greek> {349}

I: Oh in Agio Vassilis?

S: Ναι. <speaking in Greek>

I: Now when was your {350} with the {350}//

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh <speaking in Greek> and he was, he had been one//

S: <speaking in Greek> {352}

I: Ναι.

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh you got married in Agios Vasilis. Saint Basil's.

S: Mmhmm.

I: Was your grandfather there when you got married?

S: My, my father, grandfather get married.

I: Oh he married you!

S: Yeah.

I: Uhh, did you uhh, did you go to his church?

S: Oh yeah. We go to church and I help my father, my παπού and I went with my <speaking in Greek> {359}

I: Oh so you went with your uhh, your grandfather who was the priest to//

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: //liturgies and far away places.

S: Yeah.

I: How far did you go, where did you//

S: Oh sometimes we'd go about an hour and a half. You, you know umm <speaking in Greek> {364}.

I: Ohh <speaking in Greek> That's out in the, in the wilderness! <laughing>

S: Ναι, ναι, ναι. <speaking in Greek> {368}

I: Between {368} and {368}.

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh the first place where the Turks were//

S: //Ναι. <speaking in Greek> {373}

I: Ohh {373}.

S: Ναι, ναι.

I: And there were people living out there.

S: Uhh now, nobody.

I: Not now.

S: No but they have uhh George <speaking in Greek> {375}

I: Saint Barbara.

S: Yeah. <speaking in Greek> {377}

I: //another, another//

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: There was a beautiful icon there before it was destroyed of Agios Vasil.

S: <speaking in Greek> {385}

I: We would go at night because at night because if another priest had gotten there first we were not supposed to do the liturgies//

S: //no, no//

I: //we would go earlier in the morning//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {392}

I: //you realize//

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: //you, you know that no one else has uhh//

S: <speaking in Greek> {394}

I: //done a liturgy//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {397}

I: My grandfather embraced me as I was leaving, he cried because I was his first grandchild.

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: And you were the first one to leave the family. What kinds of things did you do to help your grandfather? <speaking in Greek> {404}

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: When my grandfather came to the house before we left I would make him coffee and I'd get him ready. <speaking in Greek> {410}

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: And you said the epostolo, the epistle, read the epistle//

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: And you//

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: //you <speaking in Greek>

S: <speaking in Greek> {417}

I: Yeah and you were like a cantor you would, you would uhh. Umm did you, were you able to read <speaking in Greek> did you remember?

S: <speaking in Greek> {418}

I: You could read//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {420}

I: I bet you can still remember some of those.

S: Yeah, yeah.

I: Uhh did you make arto then, did you make the arto?

S: Oh yeah, yeah. I will start to make the arto I was uhh 15 years old.

I: You were 15 years old?

S: Yeah because my grandmother they make it and after she get old and you need me to help them to make it and one time I remember it was <speaking in Greek> {429}

I: <speaking in Greek> {440} The arto and the prosforo for the {441}

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: You learned from your γιαγιά.

S: Mmhmm.

I: <speaking in Greek> {444} Was this your grandmother who was married to your priest//

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: Your, now the priest was your mother's father?

S: Yeah.

I: <mumbling> <speaking in Greek> {447}

S: <speaking in Greek> {448}

I: Oh and you have her name.

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Stamatiki.

S: Ναι. <speaking in Greek> {451}

I: <speaking in Greek> {452}

S: <speaking in Greek> {454}

I: The priest had to go to the house//

S: //yeah//

I: //to uhh <interruption> with the holy water//

S: //yeah, the holy water <speaking in Greek> {462}

I: That's how they did it in Kythera.

S: Yeah.

I: He went to the house.

S: Yeah.

I: <speaking in Greek> {474} seven, read seven gospels.

S: Yeah.

I: And then uhh//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {473}

I: //and with the <speaking in Greek>

S: Yeah.

I: And with the incense burner he went around the house.

S: <speaking in Greek> {476}

I: And sprinkled holy water around the house.

S: Yeah, yeah.

I: Yeah. <speaking in Greek> {478}

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: <speaking in Greek>

S: <speaking in Greek> {479}

I: He would pray with them.

S: Yeah.

I: //<speaking in Greek>

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: //{482}//

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: And if somebody died//

S: //Yeah.

I: //the priest had to be there to read first before//

S: //yeah//

I: //before they buried him. <speaking in Greek> {486}

S: <speaking in Greek> {488}

I: They have to bury the dead right//

S: //yeah//

I: //the next day.

S: Yeah.

I: <speaking in Greek> {490}

S: <speaking in Greek> {491}

I: Ok, people would sit with the//

S: //Yeah. <speaking in Greek> {494}

I: And then he would be taken to church where they would have the service and then uhh <speaking in Greek> {498}

S: Ναι. Ναι.

I: And they had the marble and//

S: <speaking in Greek> {500}

I: Oh so if the people had the money they would have the marble//

S: //yeah, uh huh.

I: Grave sites and then they didn't, they just had a wooden cross//

S: //wooden cross, that's all.

I: <speaking in Greek> {505}

S: <speaking in Greek> {507}

I: So after three years//

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: //they would get the bones.

S: //the bones.

I: Some people did bother digging up the bones after three years. <speaking in Greek> {511} They had the space then.

S: Ναι. <speaking in Greek>

I: Ok.

S: <speaking in Greek> {517}

I: Oh so your, your brother bought his wife//

S: //Ναι//

I: //to Kythera. And then when the girls went, when your daughters went back to Kythera uhh you, uhh, you sent them//

S: <speaking in Greek> {522}

I: Oh you went back to Greece two times//

S: //three times.

I: Three times! Ok and you were the only one of the sisters that went back. Now how many sisters did you have?

S: Three, three together. Uhh//

I: You had three altogether, three sisters altogether//

S: <speaking in Greek> {528}

I: {528} is in Australia.

S: Ναι.

I: And uhh, {531} your sister {531}//

S: Georgia.

I: Georgia {532} <speaking in Greek>

<background noise>

I: She died, she died young.

S: <speaking in Greek> {536}

<loud beeping sound>

S: <speaking in Greek> {537}

I: She died, her son died and she was {538}

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: And then she had the same illness did she catch//

S: //yeah.

I: And she passed away too.

S: Yeah.

I: And how about your sister in Australia?

S: She's alright, she was <laughing> <speaking in Greek> {543}

I: She talked to you yesterday!

S: Yeah, yeah. She was with her daughter because <speaking in Greek> {546}

I: Oh so she lives in between the two children//

S: //<speaking in Greek> Ναι. <speaking in Greek> {550}

I: It's winter there.

S: Yeah. <speaking in Greek> {554}

I: She doesn't like to be by herself either so she stays with his daughter//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {557} μαζί

END OF SIDE A {558}

SIDE B {000}

I: <speaking in Greek> {001}

S: <speaking in Greek> {002}

I: <speaking in Greek>

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Ok so you have a, you have a machine now?

S: <speaking in Greek> {006}

I: Yeah whose idea was it to get the machine?

S: <speaking in Greek> {007} Umm, it what I did because <speaking in Greek> {008}

I: Oh you went to Piper's to make the, the {009} experience//

S: <speaking in Greek> {010}

I: Oh so you got the idea to get the machine for the church from Piper's restaurant?

S: Yeah, yeah <speaking in Greek> {011}

I: And what, what do you make with the machine, what do you, is it a kneading machine <speaking in Greek> {015}

S: //<speaking in Greek>//

I: //that's for, it's for kneading//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {013} Yeah.

I: And you use that for//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {014}

I: Ok so that machine kneads it and the ladies roll out the dough. What do they make?

S: We make uhh, we make a bread, we make a sweets, and//

I: //what kind of sweets?

S: <speaking in Greek> {016}

I: <speaking in Greek> {017}

S: <speaking in Greek> {017}

I: And where do you get the recipes?

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: It's your recipes, your recipes for the {019} and the cuma nakia {019}. Now did, did you tell me that you got the

S: Yeah, I did <speaking in Greek>

I: Ok you got it from your sister//

S: //yes//

I: //your//

S: //she gets from//

I: //your {021}

S: //lady from San Francisco. It was umm Mrs. Psartis it was uhh from, they came from uhh Smyrna <speaking in Greek> {023}

I: Yeah, why did you like her recipe better?

S: Because umm it was easy to make uhh the, the {026}//

I: //to roll them out?

S: Yeah, to roll them, very because uhh they thinks they put it <speaking in Greek> {028} it worked very nice <speaking in Greek> {028}.

I: Ohh so the other recipes had milk that makes it nice//

S: //yeah//

I: //and nice and light but it was just difficult to roll them out//

S: //yeah, yeah.

I: So what did her recipe have instead of milk?

S: Umm they make like a {032} oranges.

I: Oh she put oranges in hers.

S: And, and eggs {033} you know. Yeah.

I: And then what about your, uhh, your famous recipe for paksimadia?

S: Ohh, uhh, paksimadia, I was for my book, you know.

I: For your book?

S: Uhh, uhh, cookbook.

I: Did you make a cookbook?

S: Yeah but I was uhh, we put 'em, they have a different recipe like I said paksimadakia but I, I think this emm, this recipe I like better and still today to make it the recipe.

I: Where did you find that recipe for the paksimadia.

S: A book.

I: From a book?

S: Yeah.

I: Yeah.

S: Yeah.

I: Did you make those kind of paksimadia in uhh Cerigo, in Kythera? {042}

S: In Cerigo it's different because Cerigo they make a paksimadia but they put 'em <speaking in Greek> {043}

I: Oh they put yeast in the paksimadia?

S: Yeah, yeah <speaking in Greek> {045}

I: Oh you//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {046}

I: Oh you can't shake them, they get bigger//

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: Uh huh.

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Yeah.

S: <speaking in Greek> nice shake. Ναι. <speaking in Greek> {049}

I: They had, they <speaking in Greek> had yeast.

S: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

I: So when you were uhh in the uhh, before you came to this church umm were you in Philoptochos?

S: Well I was in Philoptochos and was in Oakland but umm, uhh was uhh//

I: //what do you remember//

S: //it don't make it like make it now, that time. Used to have a, Phiptochos they have emm, November {055} they have some in the church to send, they send and food they send umm {057} or anything but this umm, umm Philoptochos now Father George make it the to make it μεγα-, μεγάλο, ohh, παζάρι <speaking in Greek> {061}.

I: Ohh so before the Philoptokos//

S: //yeah//

I: //they didn't just make for festivals//

S: //but, but, yeah, before <speaking in Greek> {062}

I: Yeah.

S: <speaking in Greek> {063}

I: Large corner that leads for Father George {065}//

S: //yeah.

I: And just sweets, not, not//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {066}

I: And you do that here too in Castro Valley.

S: Yeah, yeah.

I: Who was uhh, who started the Philoptochos in Oakland?

S: Uhh, it was, for, for the lady of Philoptochos <speaking in Greek> Eleni Kazaras {069}

I: Eleni Kazaras?

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: The first Philoptochos?//

S: //<speaking in Greek> Yeah. <speaking in Greek>

I: After you left Oakland? You started the Philoptochos in Castro Valley//

S: //for- Philoptochos Castro Valley. <mumbling in Greek> {075}

I: Why did uhh, why did some people leave the Oakland church?

S: Pardon me?

I: Why did some people leave the Oakland church and start a church in//

S: //because speaking in Greek> {078}

I: They, they, they uhh asked Father George to leave//

S: //Ναι <speaking in Greek> {080}

I: Oh those, those people who loved Father George wanted them to leave too.

S: Yeah. And we don't have a church at that time and <speaking in Greek> {083}

I: You had your first uhh liturgy away from Oakland in a park in Oakland//

S: Yeah, πώς λέγετε, πώς λέγετε <speaking in Greek> {087}

I: With Father Stephanides.

S: Father Stephanides//

I: //Was it, was it Lake Merritt//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {088}

I: He came from New York?

S: Ναι. <speaking in Greek> {089}

I: Ohh the Archbishop//

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: Not Lake {090} but the other one that uhh//

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: That's ok, you'll think of it.

S: Ναι. <speaking in Greek> {093}

I: It was in a park.

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: //And you rented a church//

S: <speaking in Greek> {096}

I: <speaking in Greek> {099}

S: <speaking in Greek> {099}

I: Ok it was a Protestant church near here?

S: Ναι. Πώς λέγετε?

I: Was it on Grove Way?

S: Grove, yeah.

I: On Grove Way.

S: Yeah, yeah. <speaking in Greek> {101} Castro Valley.

I: Then you bought the property in Castro Valley.

S: Yeah. <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh yeah, you've been here about 25 years//

S: //<speaking in Greek> το 72 <speaking in Greek> {104}

I: You think it was 1972//

S: <speaking in Greek> {105}

I: And then you bought the Castro Valley church.

S: Yeah.

I: <speaking in Greek> {108}

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Father Antonios was the man who replaced Father George//

S: //Father George and <speaking in Greek>

I: He called a meeting inside the church//

S: Yeah, ehh <speaking in Greek> {111}

I: Which is not permitted//

S: //because <speaking in Greek>

I: Because no one can speak his mind inside the church//

S: Yeah, yeah. <speaking in Greek> {113}

I: Because of the, the words that he spoke//

S: //yeah <speaking in Greek>

I: //we had gone up and left//

S: <speaking in Greek> {118}

I: George Corikas was the//

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: //first President of the Castro Valley Church//

S: <speaking in Greek> {120}

I: George Diamond's father.

S: Ναι.

I: {122}

S: Yes. Ναι.

I: Oh yeah <speaking in Greek> {123}

S: Yeah, yeah, yeah. <speaking in Greek> {124}

I: And there you were in Castro Valley//

S: Ναι.

I: And how did you raise money for the church?

S: Well, umm, they, they always gets money from {126} but they don't give us all, they give us little and then we have people go around <speaking in Greek> {128}

I: Ok the//

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: //they gathered money for the people//

S: //yeah and then <speaking in Greek> {130}

I: With membership.

S: <speaking in Greek> {132}

I: Stephanides was the first priest.

S: Ναι. <speaking in Greek>

I: And then Father Chris umm//

S: //Manidakis//

I: //Manidakis, ok.

S: Ναι. <speaking in Greek> {134}

I: Yeah and then Father Tom Avramis.

S: Ναι.

I: When you//

S: //oh Father Avram <speaking in Greek> {135}

I: Father Avramis brought the most people.

S: Yeah <coughs>

I: What uhh, what was uhh//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {136}

I: At least eight years. What was it like with the first church in Oakland, what, what was, how did the//

S: //oh how did//

I: //were you here when they first started the church//

S: //no, no I was finding church already built//

I: //you found it built//

S: //but there was uhh, I heard uhh the first priest he was umm <speaking in Greek> {141} candy store.

I: He had a candy store, the first//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {143}

I: He went to school in//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {144}

I: She can't remember//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {148}

I: He was an {149} right?

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: When you had the problems, was it <interruption> before Father Avlachas? {153}

S: <speaking in Greek>

I: Oh they had problems with that priest//

S: //Ναι//

I: //they uhh had to leave//

S: //<speaking in Greek> {156}

I: What was his name?

S: Oh Father Nou.

I: Yeah, Father Nou.

S: <speaking in Greek> {158}

I: <speaking in Greek> What kind of problems did they have//

S: a problem <speaking in Greek> {160}

I: Ohh there was a problem with//

S: //yeah, yeah. <speaking in Greek>// {165}

I: //and they had//

S: //<speaking in Greek>

I: And it's Father Stephanides, I see. What, what about the Greek school, was there a Greek school?

S: Yeah, they keep a the schools Greece//

I: //did you, did you find a Greek school here when you came to Oakland?

S: Yeah. It was uhh, it was ehh teaching, like I said, they teach <speaking in Greek> {172}//

I: //they had uhh, they had uhh Maria Kapadasiliou for a teacher?

S: Ναι <speaking in Greek> {173}

I: <speaking in Greek> {179}

S: <speaking in Greek> {180}

I: Ohh! Ok.

S: Ναι.

I: Uhh it was Dousus {182}, was it Jim Dousus, was, was a teacher?

S: Yes. I don't know if he's teaching but he was a for the school, Greek school.

I: Oh he//

S: //yeah//

I: //he helped establish the Greek school//

S: //yeah, yeah, yeah. <speaking in Greek> I mean, if he <speaking in Greek> {186}

I: When, when was that//

S: //Dourthas//

I: //Yeah, when, when did Jim Guthas get involved in the Greek school?

S: τώρα? No, no, τότε. <speaking in Greek> //

I: //<speaking in Greek> from the very beginning.

S: //is more established, no.

I: It's more established.

S: Ναι, ναι.

I: Yeah do you remember uhh, uhh {190} some//

S: //do I?//

I: //yes it's time, it's time for our {191}

END OF SIDE B

END OF INTERVIEW {192}